

Archie
COMICS

#3
OF FIVE

COSMO™

THE MIGHTY MARTIAN



FLYNN • STANLEY • YARDLEY • HERMS • MORELLI

Cosmo is the quick-witted leader of his Martian crew. Together, they travel space in search of adventure!

COSMO™

THE MIGHTY MARTIAN



COSMO

LIVES ON THE LINE!

Cosmo and crew have successfully rescued their teammate Orbi from the hands of the elite Venusian warrior, Battle Princess Shih! They also procured an ancient Martian Relic right out of Shih's hands... however, they didn't walk away unscathed.

Before retreating, Shih shattered Max's space helmet, leaving the human hero in mortal danger!

Luckily, Cosmo's eccentric science wiz crewmate Medulla took immediate action and bonded the Martian Relic to Max's suit, stabilizing him for the time being...



ASTRA



BOUDICA

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"BEAUTY IS POWER.

"AND POWER...
IS BEAUTIFUL.

"THE IMMACULATE PERFECTION
OF *VENUS* HAS BEEN SHIELDED
FROM JEALOUS EYES BY OUR
HEAVY CLOUDS...

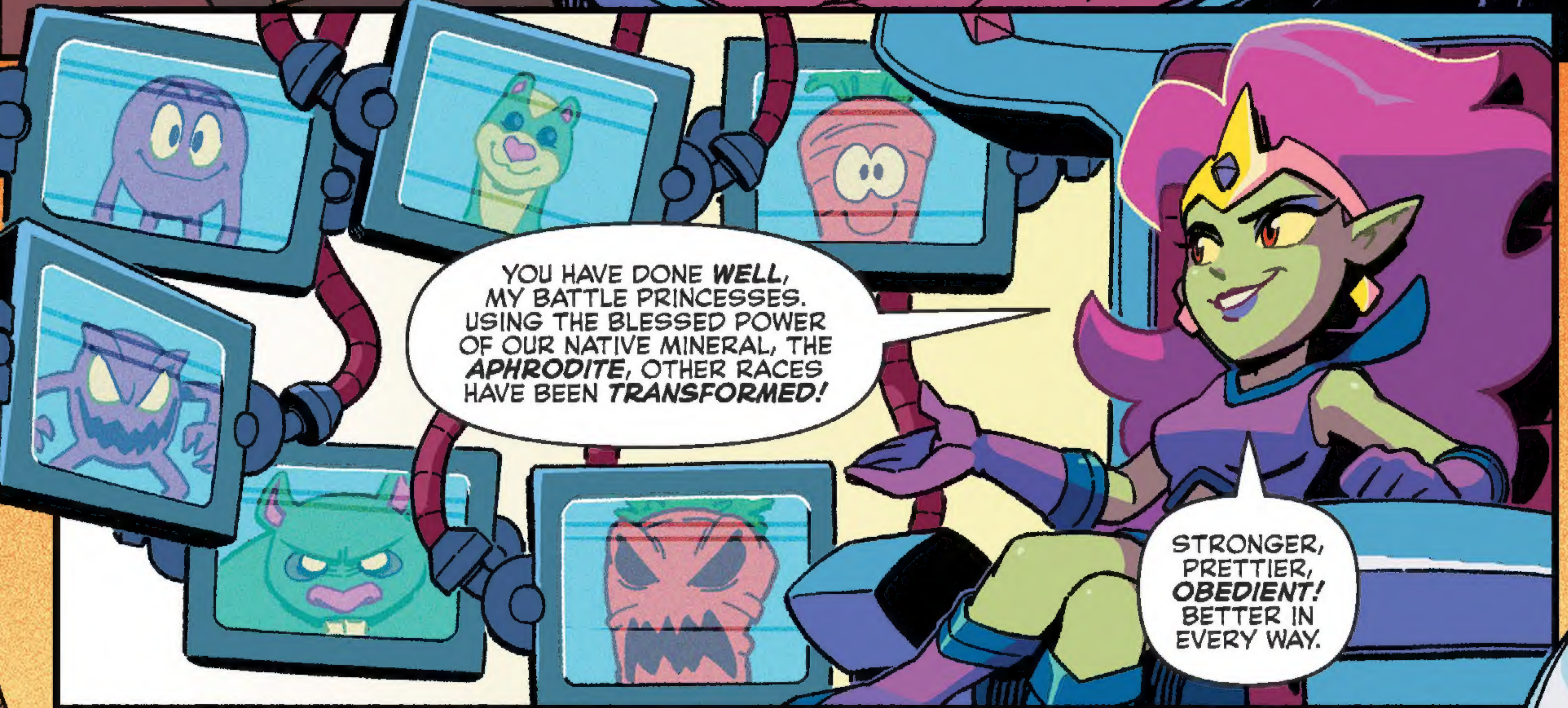
"BUT IT IS
TIME THE OTHER
WORLDS ARE
BEAUTIFIED,
IMPROVED, AND
BROUGHT TO
ORDER."

SO SAYS
**QUEEN
HESPER**--

--THE MOST
**BEAUTIFUL
AND POWERFUL**
OF ALL!



HAIL
HESPER!
HAIL
VENUS!



YOU HAVE DONE WELL,
MY BATTLE PRINCESSES.
USING THE BLESSED POWER
OF OUR NATIVE MINERAL, THE
APHRODITE, OTHER RACES
HAVE BEEN **TRANSFORMED!**

STRONGER,
PRETTIER,
OBEDIENT!
BETTER IN
EVERY WAY.



WE WILL NOT
REST UNTIL ALL
WORLDS HAVE BEEN
REVITALIZED!

ALL STARS
WILL REVOLVE
AROUND MY
WILL!

THE
ENTIRE
MILKY WAY
WILL BE
**MY
WAY!**



...AS SOON AS WE HAVE AN ANSWER TO *MARS*.

I COULD MUTATE EVERYTHING WITH A PULSE IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM, AND IT *STILL* WOULDN'T BE ENOUGH TO OVERCOME THEIR ARMIES.



IT WOULD BE A DIFFERENT STORY IF I COMMANDED ALL *THREE* OF THE ANCIENT MARTIAN RELICS.

I ALREADY HAVE *TWO*, AND SHOULD'VE RECEIVED THE *THIRD* FROM SATURN BY NOW.



WHAT.
HAPPENED.
SHIH?



I-I IT WASN'T MY FAULT, YOUR GRACE! IT WAS *COSMO*! HE RUINED EVERYTHING LIKE HE *ALWAYS* DOES!



I-IT WAS THE SAME ON THE MOON! I HAD EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL UNTIL *THAT* JERK SHOWED UP!



I WILL NOT HAVE YOU SPEAK ILL OF HIM! HE HAS DONE *MUCH* TO ANGER ME, BUT HE'S STILL *MY* COSMO.



PERHAPS WE COULD CONSIDER A *PEACEFUL* APPROACH? WHY FIGHT COSMO, OR ALL OF MARS FOR THAT MATTER? PERHAPS WE COULD GET THEM TO *JOIN* OUR CAUSE?



BWA HA HA! HA HA!! HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

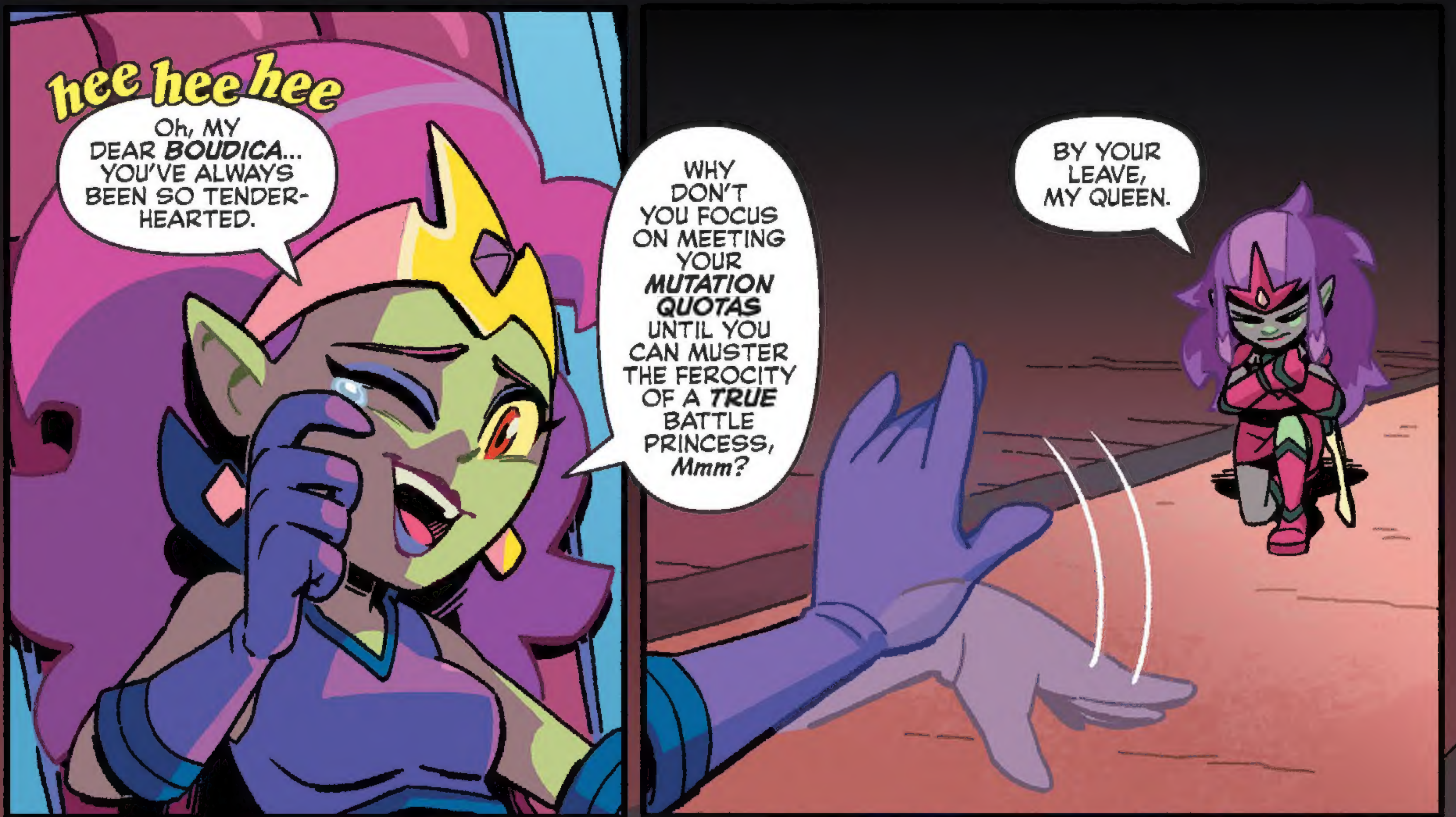


GET COSMO?! TO FOLLOW?! ANYONE?!

PEACE?! WITH MARS?!

HAHA HA!!





hee hee hee

Oh, MY DEAR **BOUDICA**... YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN SO TENDER-HEARTED.

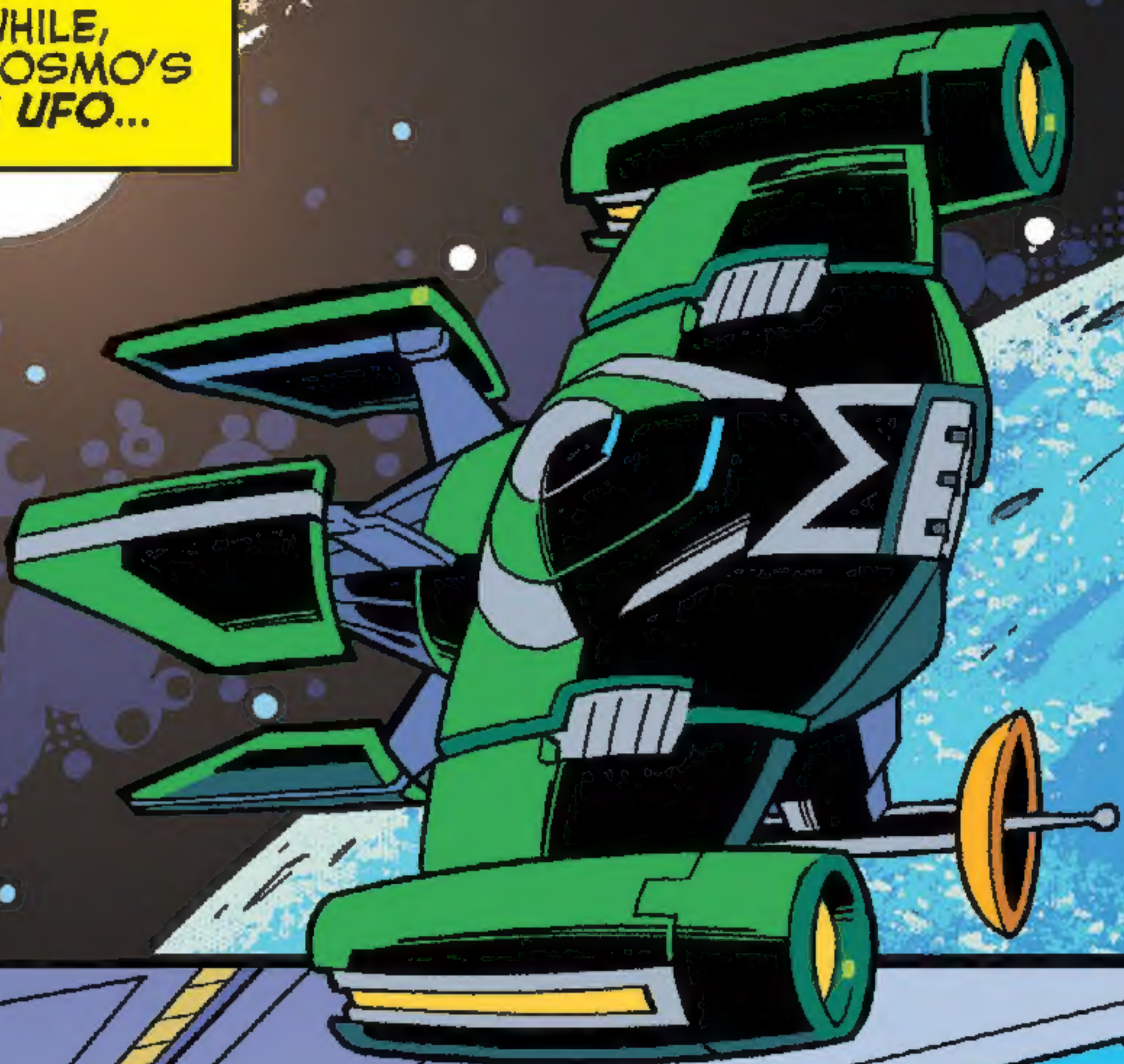
WHY DON'T YOU FOCUS ON MEETING YOUR **MUTATION QUOTAS** UNTIL YOU CAN MUSTER THE FEROCITY OF A **TRUE BATTLE PRINCESS**, Mmm?

BY YOUR LEAVE, MY QUEEN.



I'LL SHOW YOU THE RESOLVE OF A "TRUE" BATTLE PRINCESS...

MEANWHILE,
ABOARD COSMO'S
SHIP, THE UFO...

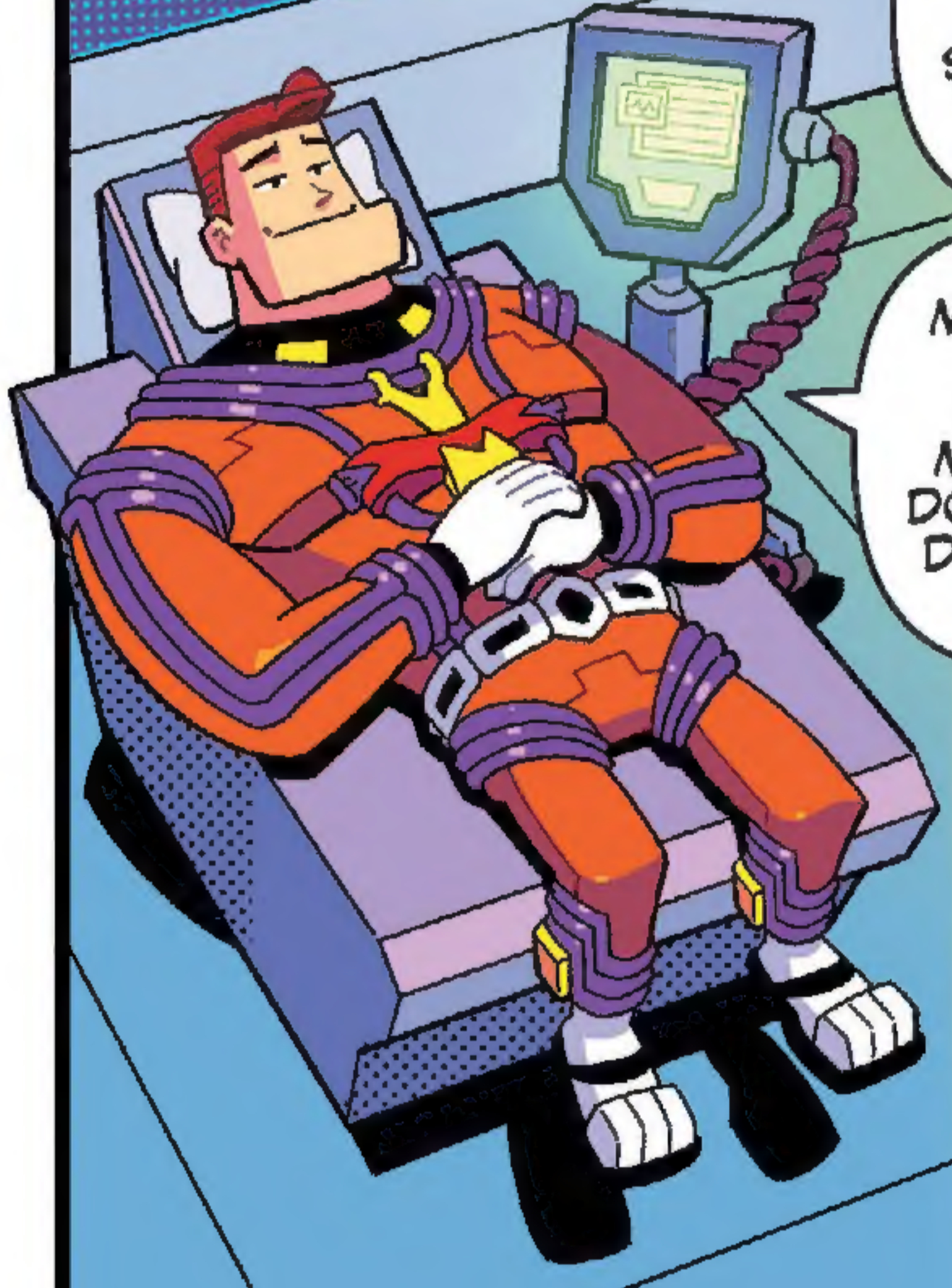


WOW, MAX!
THEY DON'T CALL YOU
"STRONGJAW" FOR NOTHIN'!
IF I WAS COVERED BY ANCIENT
MARTIAN LIVING TECH LIKE
THAT, I'D BE FREAKING
OUT.

I'M
SURPRISED
YOU'RE SO
CALM.

Oh,
BELIEVE
ME, ORBI, I
WANT TO BE
SCREAMING IN
TERROR. BUT
I CAN'T.

MEDULLA,
WHAT
IS THIS
MARTIAN
DOO-HICKY
DOING TO
ME?



THE POWER OF THE
ARIESIX THAT'S BONDED
TO YOUR SPACE SUIT IS
KEEPING YOUR PULSE,
BREATH, AND OTHER BODILY
FUNCTIONS AT A PERFECT,
HEALTHY LEVEL.

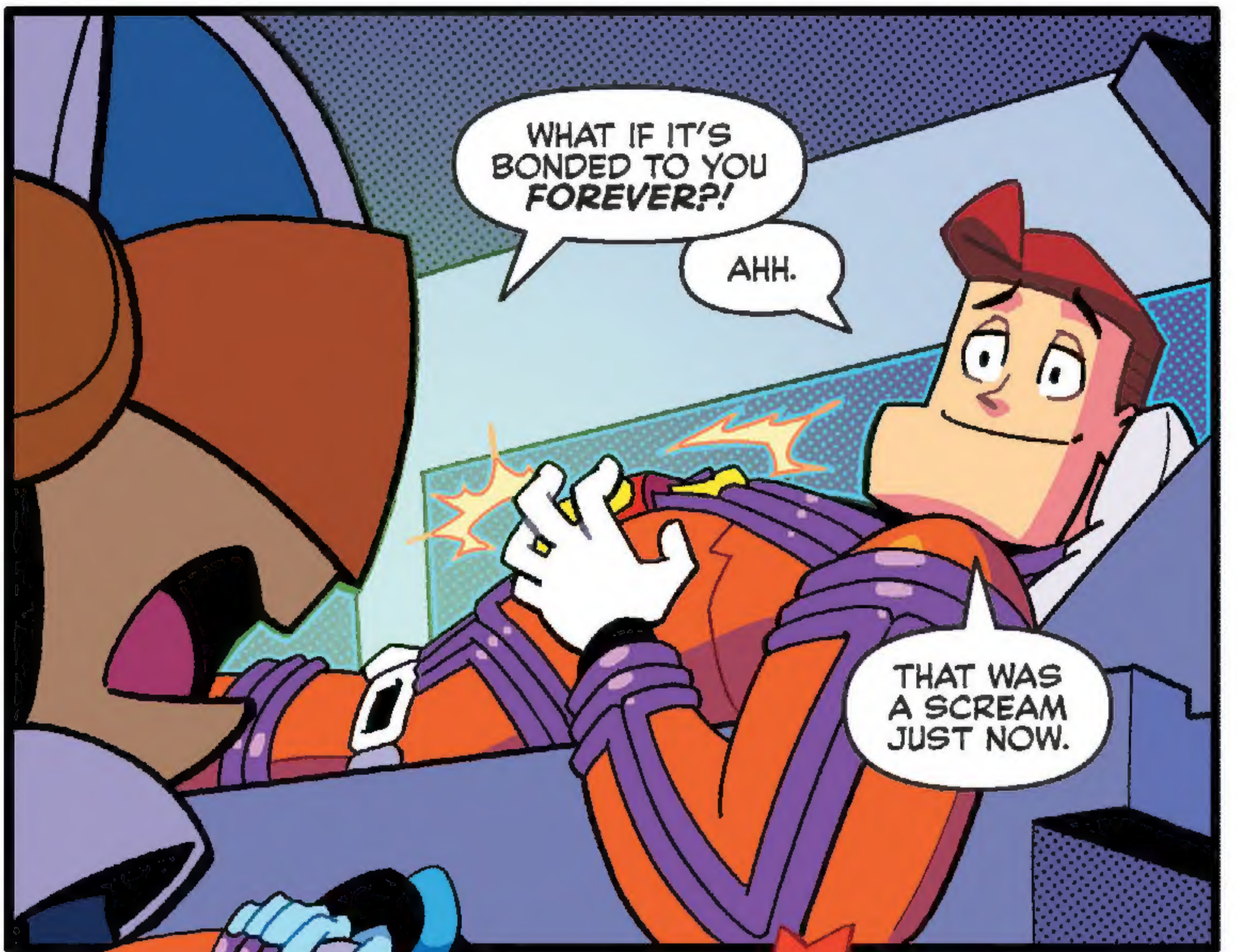


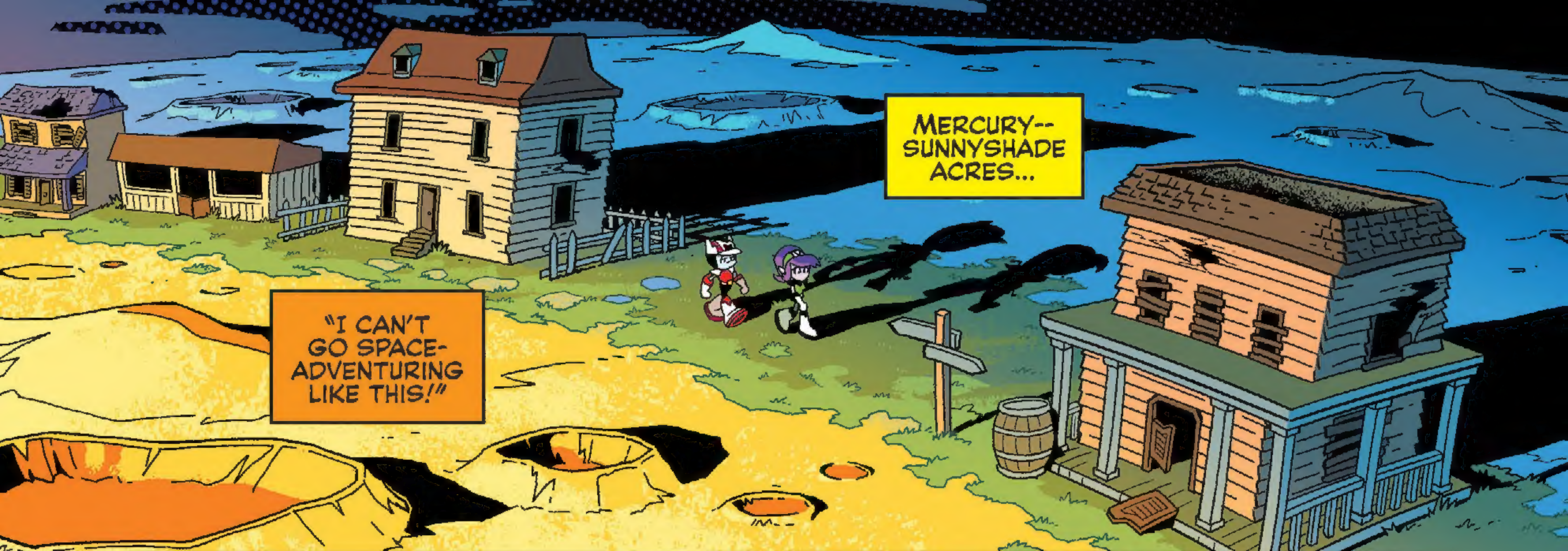
SWEET JUNIPER.
THAT'S TERRIFYING.
I SHOULD BE TERRIFIED.
I'M TRYING VERY, VERY
HARD TO BE TERRIFIED
RIGHT NOW.

I DUNNO HOW
I FEEL ABOUT THE
FACT THAT ONE OF OUR
LONG-LOST SACRED RELICS
IS FINALLY FOUND, AND YOU
PLUGGED IT ONTO A
HUMAN.

IT WAS
THE ONLY WAY
TO SAVE HIS
LIFE.

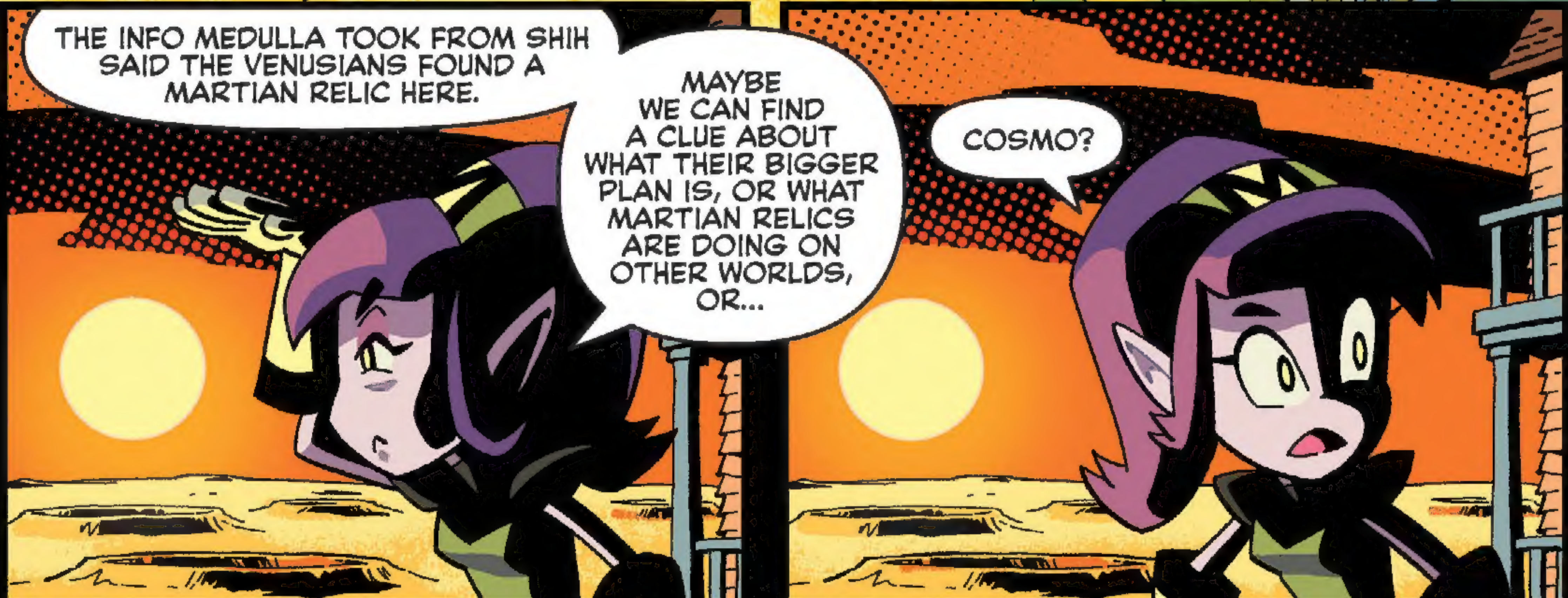






MERCURY--
SUNNYSHADE
ACRES...

"I CAN'T
GO SPACE-
ADVENTURING
LIKE THIS!"



THE INFO MEDULLA TOOK FROM SHIH
SAID THE VENUSIANS FOUND A
MARTIAN RELIC HERE.

MAYBE
WE CAN FIND
A CLUE ABOUT
WHAT THEIR BIGGER
PLAN IS, OR WHAT
MARTIAN RELICS
ARE DOING ON
OTHER WORLDS,
OR...

COSMO?



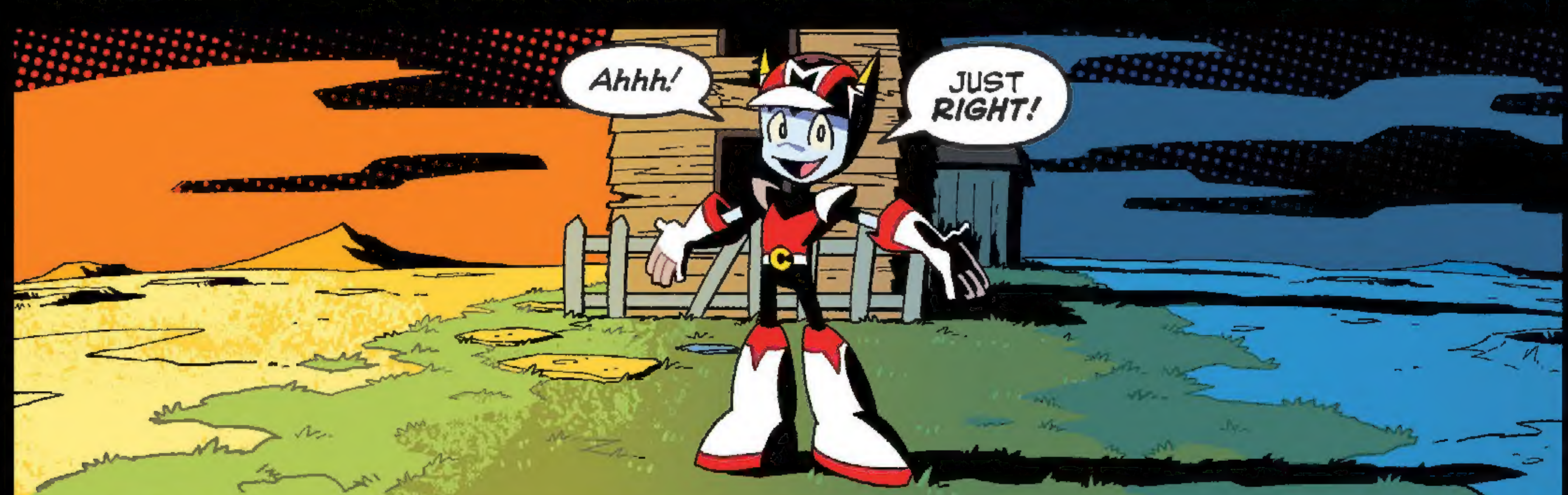
TOO
HOT!

TOO
COLD!



TOO
HOT!

TOO
COLD!



Ahhh!

JUST
RIGHT!



THE LAWN COULD USE MOWING, THOUGH.

COSMO.



I KNOW, I SHOULDN'T JUDGE.

WHY DID THE MERCURIALS LEAVE AGAIN?

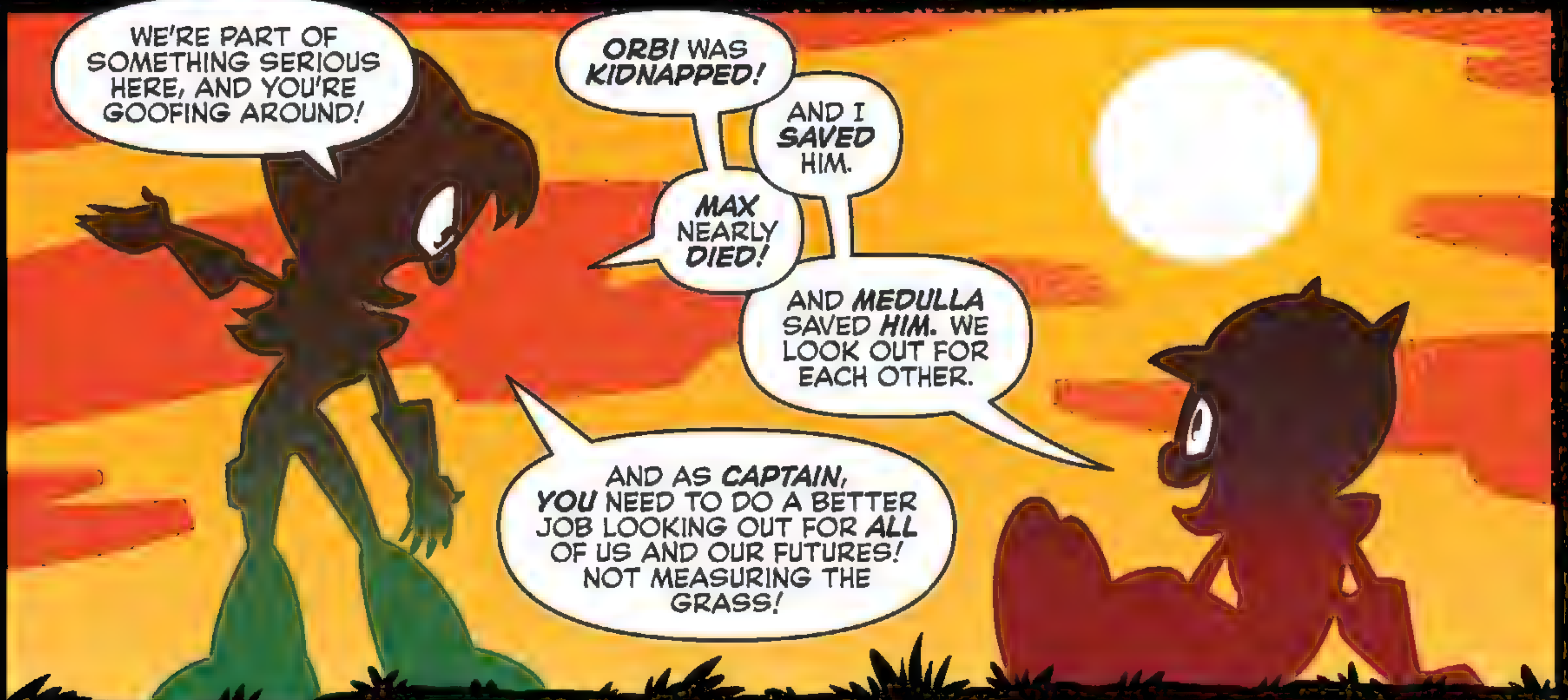
COSMO! RELICS! VENUSIANS! FOCUS!



THIS IS A GHOST TOWN! RELAX!

DON'T SAY "GHOSTS"!

AND THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT I WAS TRYING TO GET YOU TO SEE BEFORE!



WE'RE PART OF SOMETHING SERIOUS HERE, AND YOU'RE GOOFING AROUND!

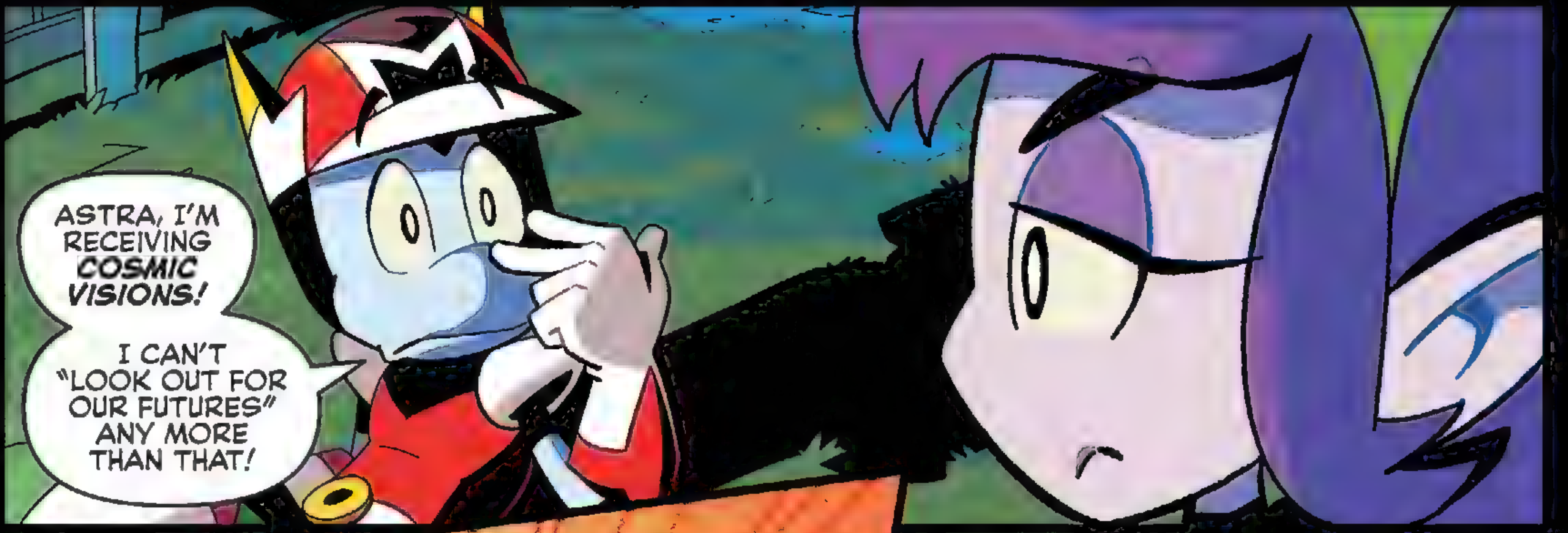
ORBI WAS KIDNAPPED!

AND I SAVED HIM.

MAX NEARLY DIED!

AND MEDULLA SAVED HIM. WE LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER.

AND AS CAPTAIN, YOU NEED TO DO A BETTER JOB LOOKING OUT FOR ALL OF US AND OUR FUTURES! NOT MEASURING THE GRASS!



ASTRA, I'M RECEIVING COSMIC VISIONS!

I CAN'T "LOOK OUT FOR OUR FUTURES" ANY MORE THAN THAT!



THE RELICS SHOWING UP? SUDDEN VISIONS? TAKING ON THE BATTLE PRINCESS?

MAYBE THIS IS DESTINY? AND MAYBE I'M THE DESTINED HERO OF ALL SPACE!

NO, YOU'RE TURNING INTO A MARTIAN MAX STRONGJAW.

ACK!

NO! I TAKE IT BACK!



HAHA! YOU DO HAVE A POINT. A LOT OF CRAZY STUFF SEEMS TO BE COMING TO A HEAD.

ALL THE MORE REASON TO GET SERIOUS.

HAHA! I SUPPOSE, BUT IF I GET TOO WOUND UP, I'LL SNAP. THAT'S WHY I HAVE YOU.



WHAT?
TO WIND
YOU UP?

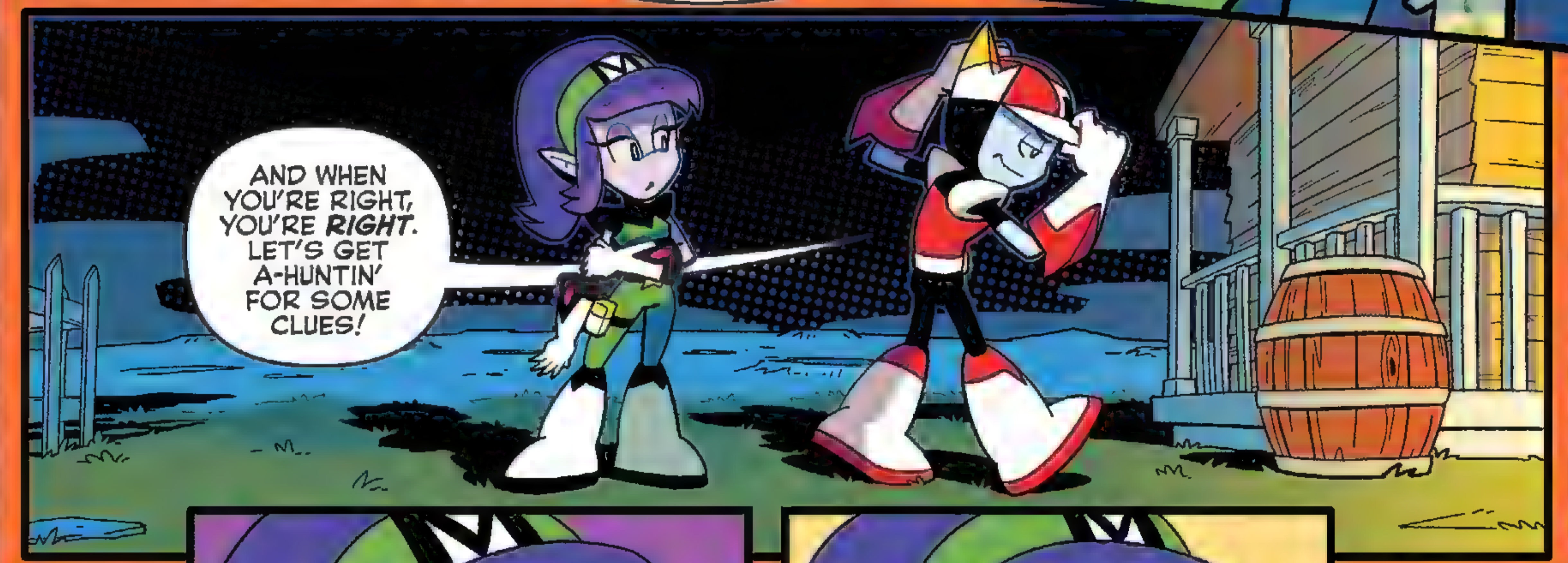
Heh, NO,
I MEAN KEEP
ME ON TRACK.
I'D BE LOST
WITHOUT
YOU.



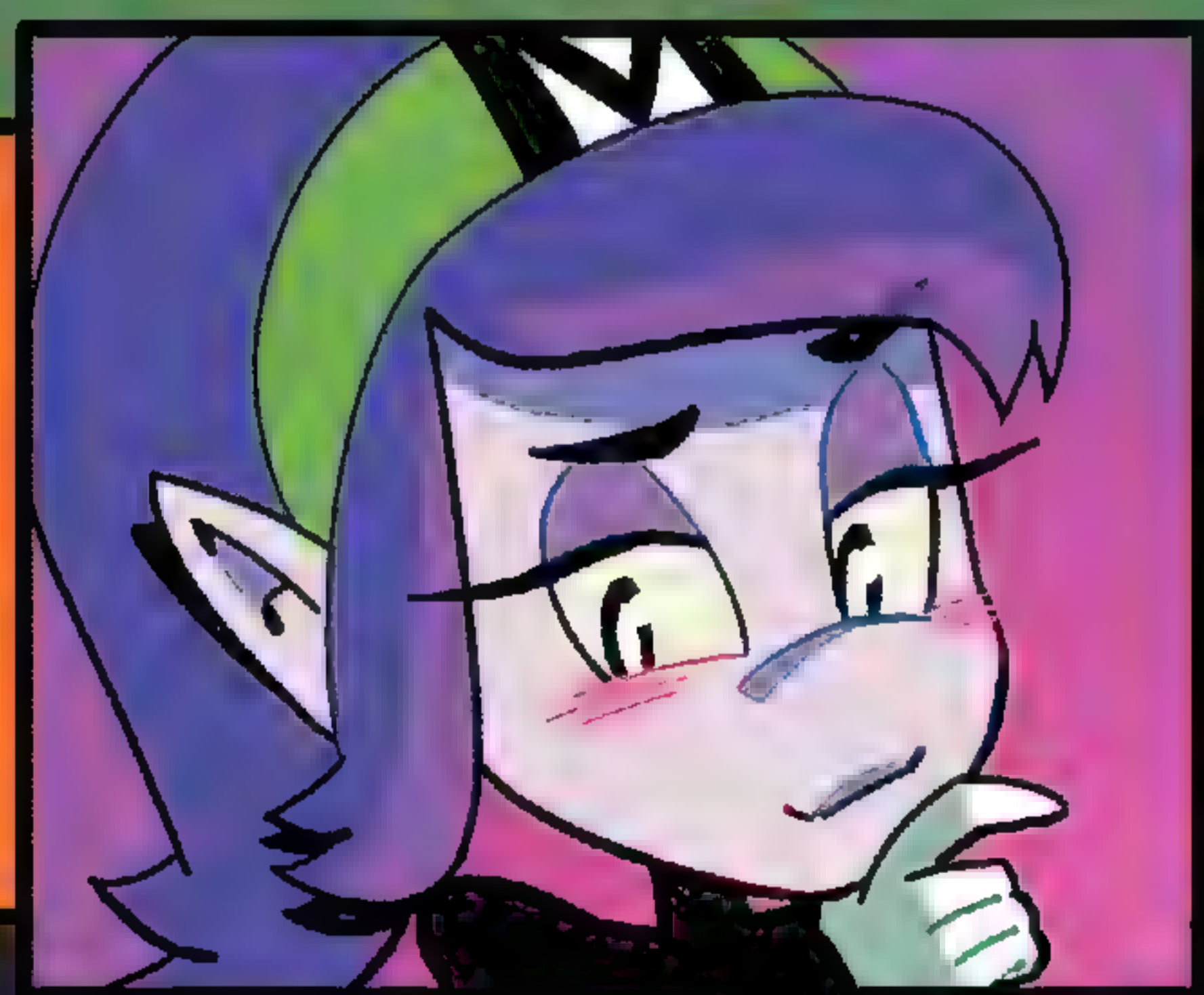
...EXCUSE
ME?

I MEAN,
OBVIOUSLY,
YOU PILOT
MY SHIP.
BUT YOU'VE
ALWAYS BEEN
A CLEAR
HEADING
WHEN I GET
TURNED
AROUND.

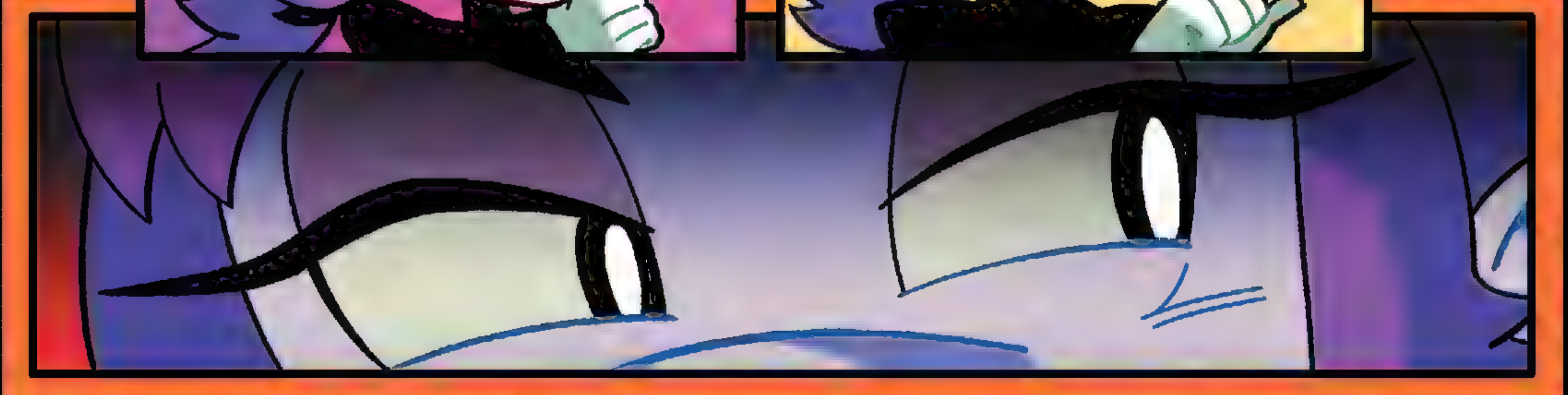
ORBI IS MY
BEST FRIEND, AND
MEDULLA IS FUN TO
HANG OUT WITH, BUT
I WOULDN'T BE ABLE
TO DO WHAT I DO
WITHOUT YOU.

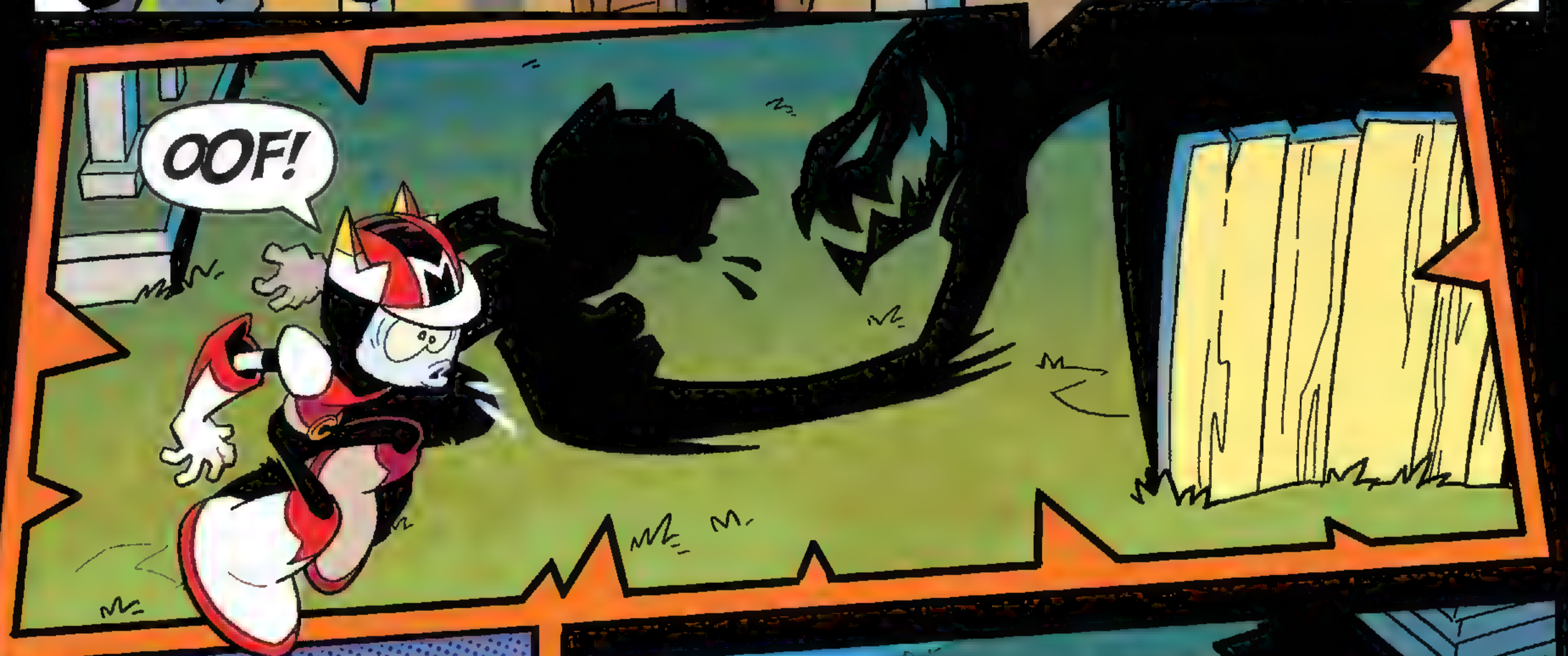


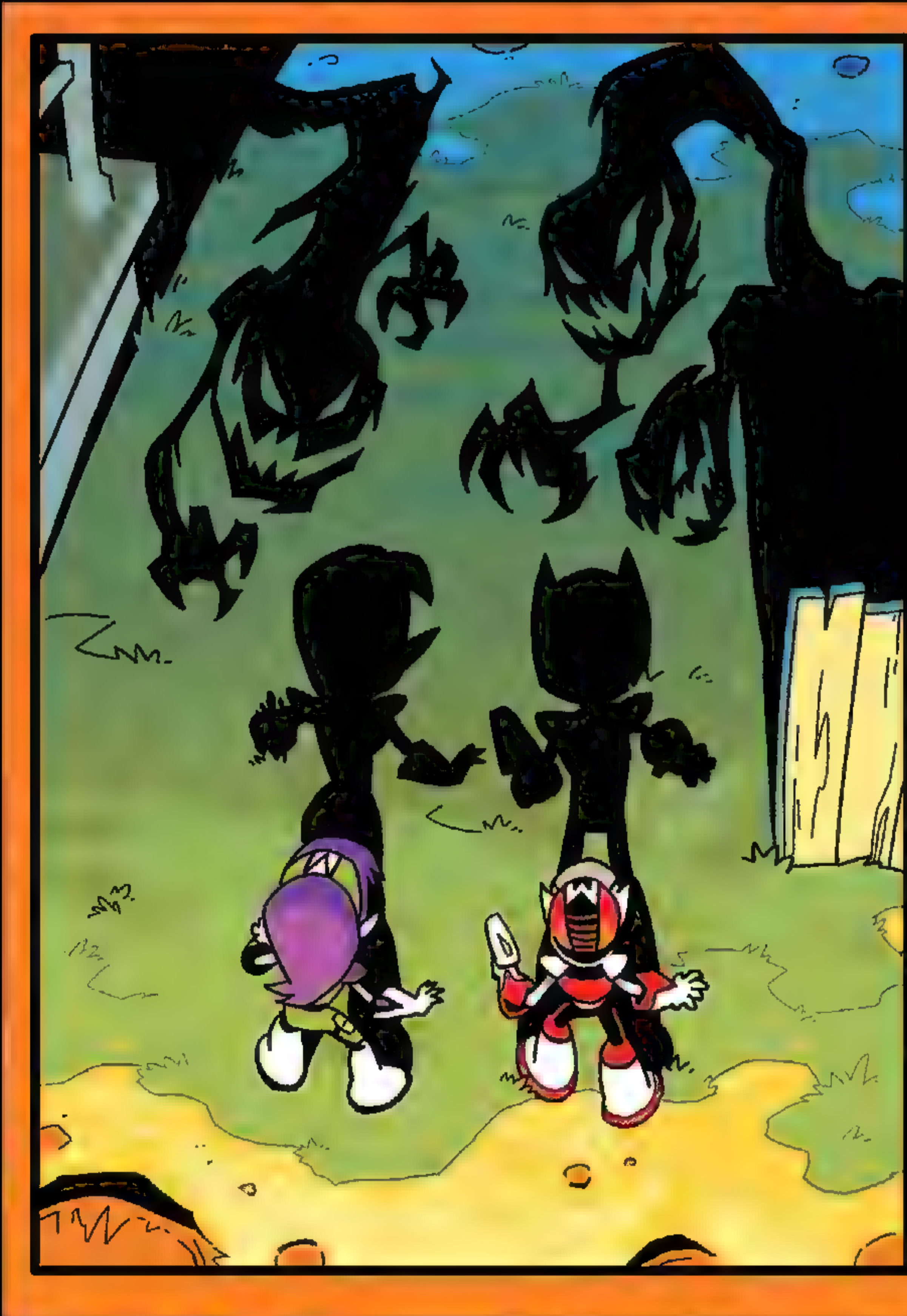
AND WHEN
YOU'RE RIGHT,
YOU'RE **RIGHT**.
LET'S GET
A-HUNTIN'
FOR SOME
CLUES!

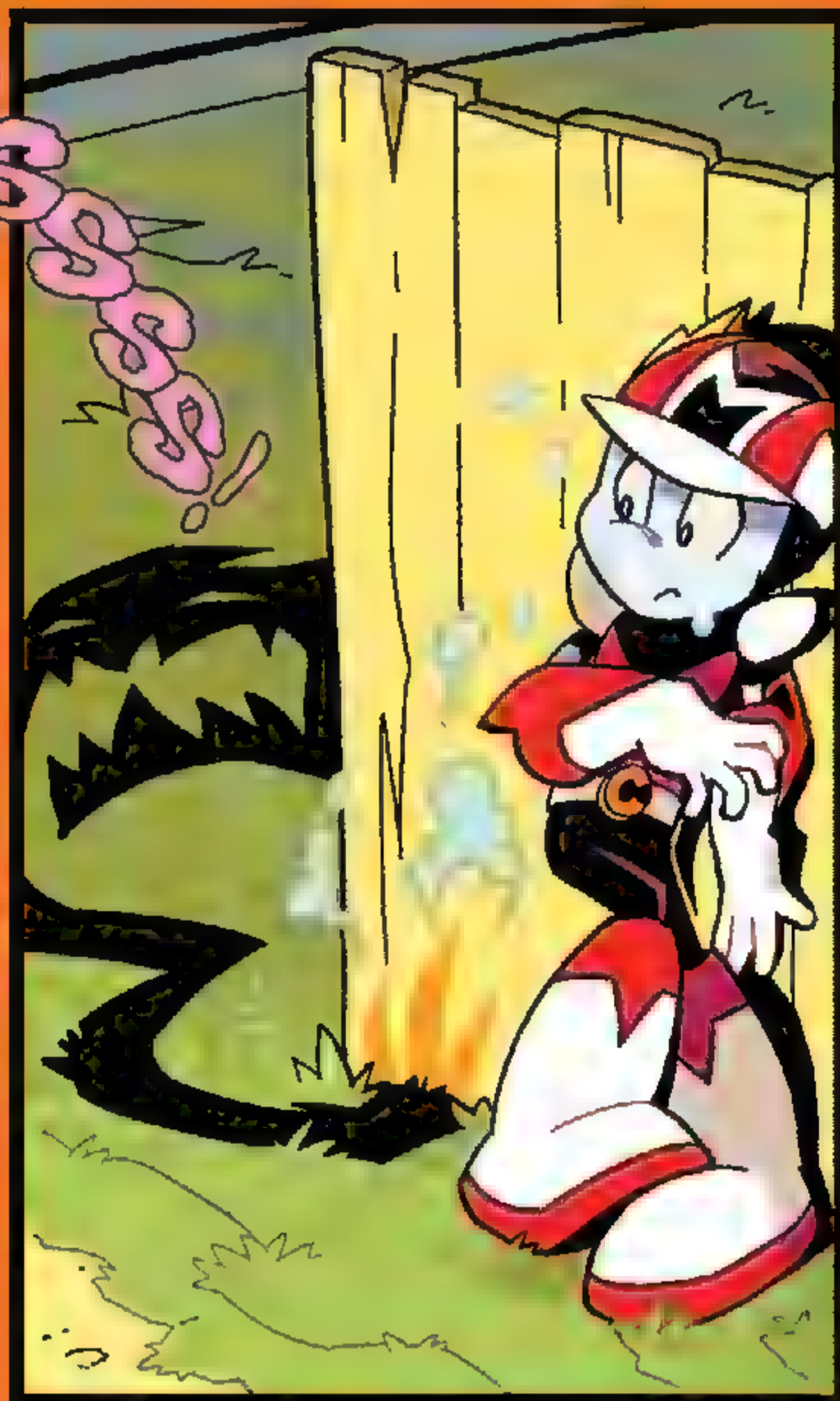


Y'KNOW...
WHILE WE'RE
BEING
HONEST...
I'VE ALWAYS
WANTED TO
SAY...

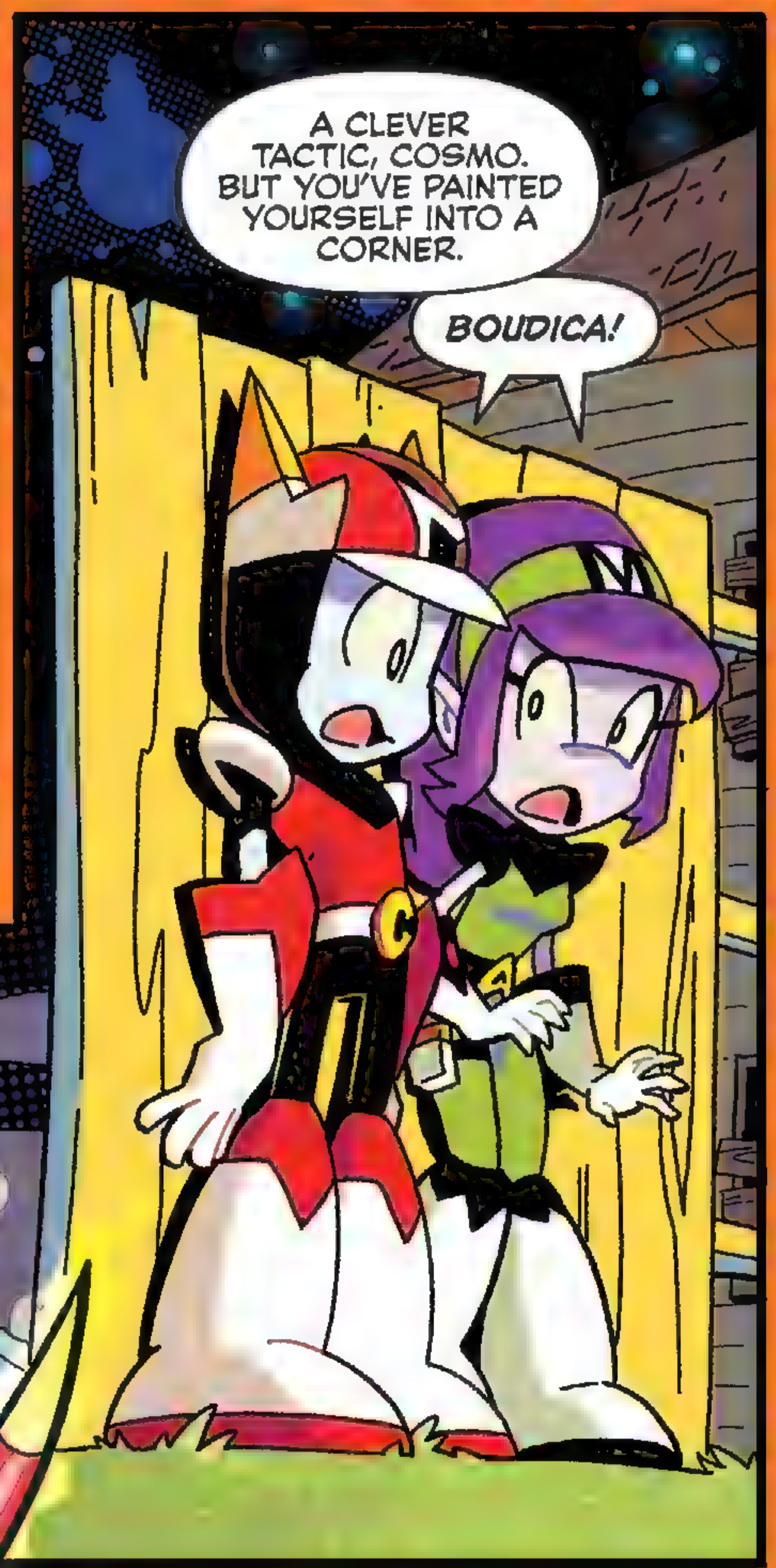








Hesperia!



A CLEVER TACTIC, COSMO. BUT YOU'VE PAINTED YOURSELF INTO A CORNER.

BOUDICA!



YOU STOLE ONE OF THE MARTIAN RELICS FROM SHIH. YOU WILL RETURN IT SO I MAY DELIVER IT TO MY QUEEN.



KEY WORD THERE-- "MARTIAN" RELICS. SO THEY DON'T BELONG TO HESPER!

I'M GIVING YOU ONE CHANCE TO END THIS PEACEFULLY, ASTRA. WARRIOR TO WARRIOR.



ANY IDEAS?



COSMO.
WE.
ARE.
GOING.
TO.
DIE.
Nah...



I'VE GOT A PLAN.

WHY DO YOU INSIST ON MAKING EVERYTHING SO *DRAMATIC*, COSMO?

FINE! HERE'S YOUR COUNTDOWN! TEN! NINE! EIGHT!

OW! OKAY! YOU GOT ME ANYWAY!

HA! THE PHOBOSIS IS MORE POWERFUL THAN I IMAGINED. I DIDN'T THINK THE SHADOWS COULD REACH THROUGH THE DIRECT SUNLIGHT.

THEY COULDN'T!





YOU--!

ARGH!
NO!



YOU GAVE US
A CHANCE TO END
THIS PEACEFULLY,
SO I'LL RETURN
THE FAVOR.

TELL US
WHAT HESPER
IS UP TO AND
I'LL LET YOU
GO.

I WOULD
NEVER BETRAY
MY QUEEN!



SO
FINISH ME!
IT'S BETTER
THAN RETURNING
TO HER LIKE
THIS!

I DON'T...
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
HESPER'S
BECOME
SOMEONE
LIKE
THAT.

IF IT'S REALLY THAT BAD, WE CAN TAKE YOU PRISONER. KEEP YOU SAFE.

AND SULLY MY PRIDE AS A BATTLE PRINCESS? THAT'S EVEN WORSE.

SO WHAT'S THE LEAST AWFUL FORM OF MERCY WE CAN SHOW YOU? DO YOU HAVE A FLOW CHART WE CAN REFER TO?



I MAY HAVE FAILED HER, BUT YOU WILL NEVER DEFEAT QUEEN HESPER. YOU'RE IN WAY OVER YOUR HEAD, COSMO.

SHE HASN'T FORGIVEN YOU FOR WHAT YOU DID IN THE PAST, AND SHE'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS.



WOIP

DANG IT! SHE TELEPORTED AWAY!

WE REALLY OUGHT TO HAVE MEDULLA DEVELOP THAT KIND OF TECH FOR US.

LET'S GET BACK TO THE UFO.





YOU DIDN'T SAY A WORD ON THE FLIGHT BACK, COSMO. ARE YOU OKAY?

YEAH.

THAT WAS A VERY LOADED "YEAH." YOU WANT TO UNPACK IT?



Heh. NAH. NOT RIGHT NOW, AT LEAST.

THANK YOU, THOUGH.



WHAT ABOUT YOU? IT SOUNDED LIKE YOU WANTED TO BRING SOMETHING UP BACK THERE.

Heh. NAH. NOT RIGHT NOW, AT LEAST.



WELCOME BACK! DID YOU--*IS* THAT ANOTHER RELIC?!

YEP! TWO OUT OF THREE, AND ANOTHER BATTLE PRINCESS SENT PACKING!



I SIT OUT ON ONE LITTLE MISSION, AND YOU HAVE TO GO ALL SHOW-BOATY, Huh?

LOOK! LOOK! I MADE HIM A SUIT JUST LIKE US! AND I GOT IT TO FIT ON THE FIRST TRY!



THAT'S RIGHT, CONGO! NOTHING IS HOLDING ME BACK ANYMORE! GET READY TO SEE WHAT A REAL SPACE ACE CAN DO!

Oh, I KNOW HOW TO DO THINGS. YOU START TAKING NOTES!



WE'RE ON THE CUSP OF SOMETHING GREAT, CREW! I CAN FEEL IT!

LET'S FIND THAT FINAL RELIC AND SAVE THE SYSTEM FROM QUEEN HESPER!

NEXT

Queen Hesper's Crushing...
VICTORY?!



NEXT ISSUE

Cosmo and his team are on a mission to find the mysterious Martian Relics! The crew hopes that they can finally put an end to the evil antics of the Venusian army—but what will Cosmo do when he learns that the final relic resides in the one place they don't dare to enter... the castle of Queen Hesper on Venus?!

DATA FILE: BATTLE PRINCESS BOUDICA

The newest and youngest of all the Battle Princesses, Boudica is determined to prove herself to Queen Hesper that she is a capable warrior.

Although sometimes teased by her peers for her naiveté and tenderheartedness, Boudica remains loyal to Venus. As a skilled swordswoman, she will slice down any opponents that challenge her home.

Name: Boudica

Home planet: Venus

Age: 17

Likes: Sincerety, respect, heavy metal, buffalo wings

Dislikes: Dishonesty, tricks, isolation, sour candy



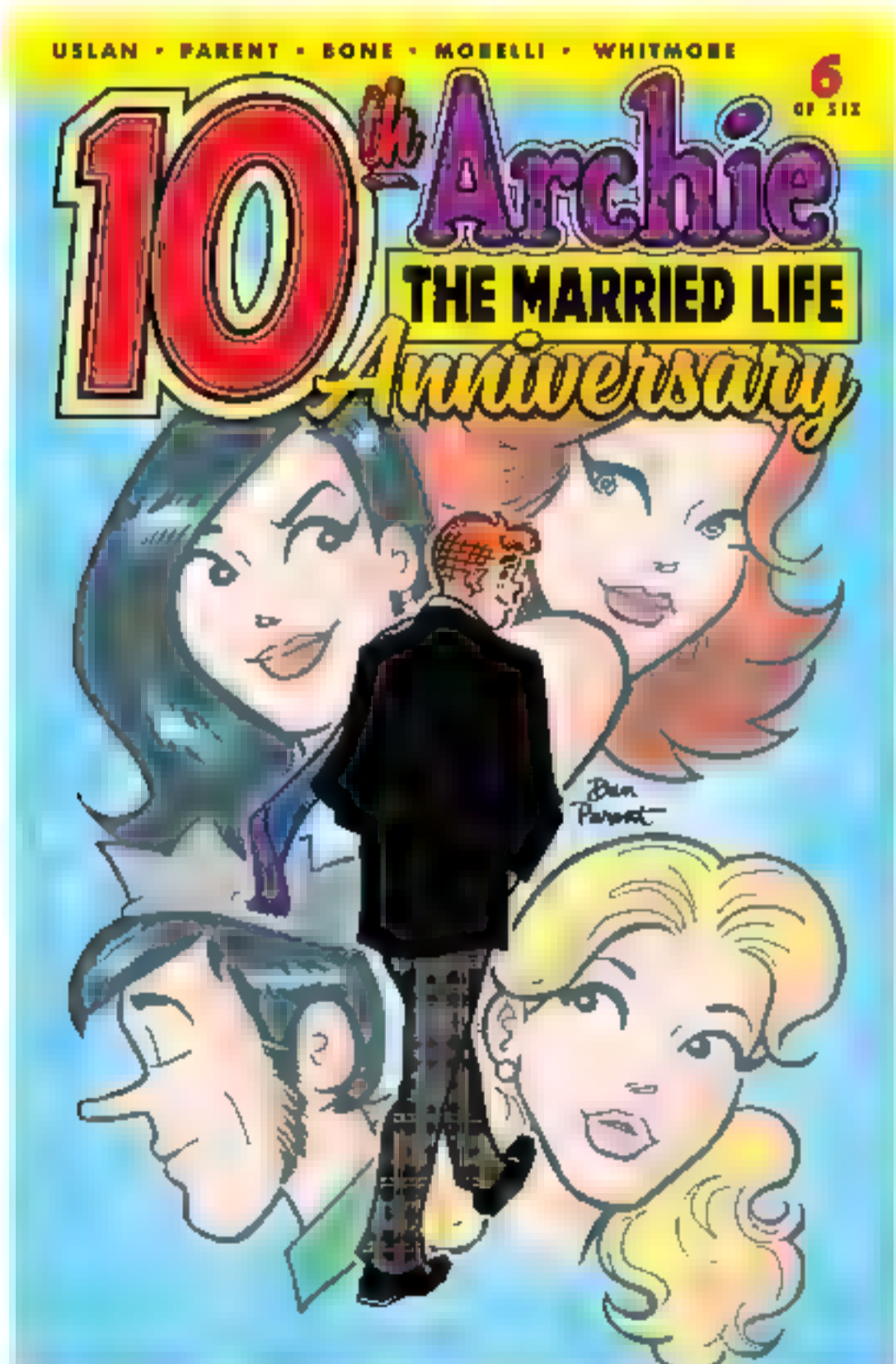
OUTER SPACE STRIPS

A Shadow of Doubt

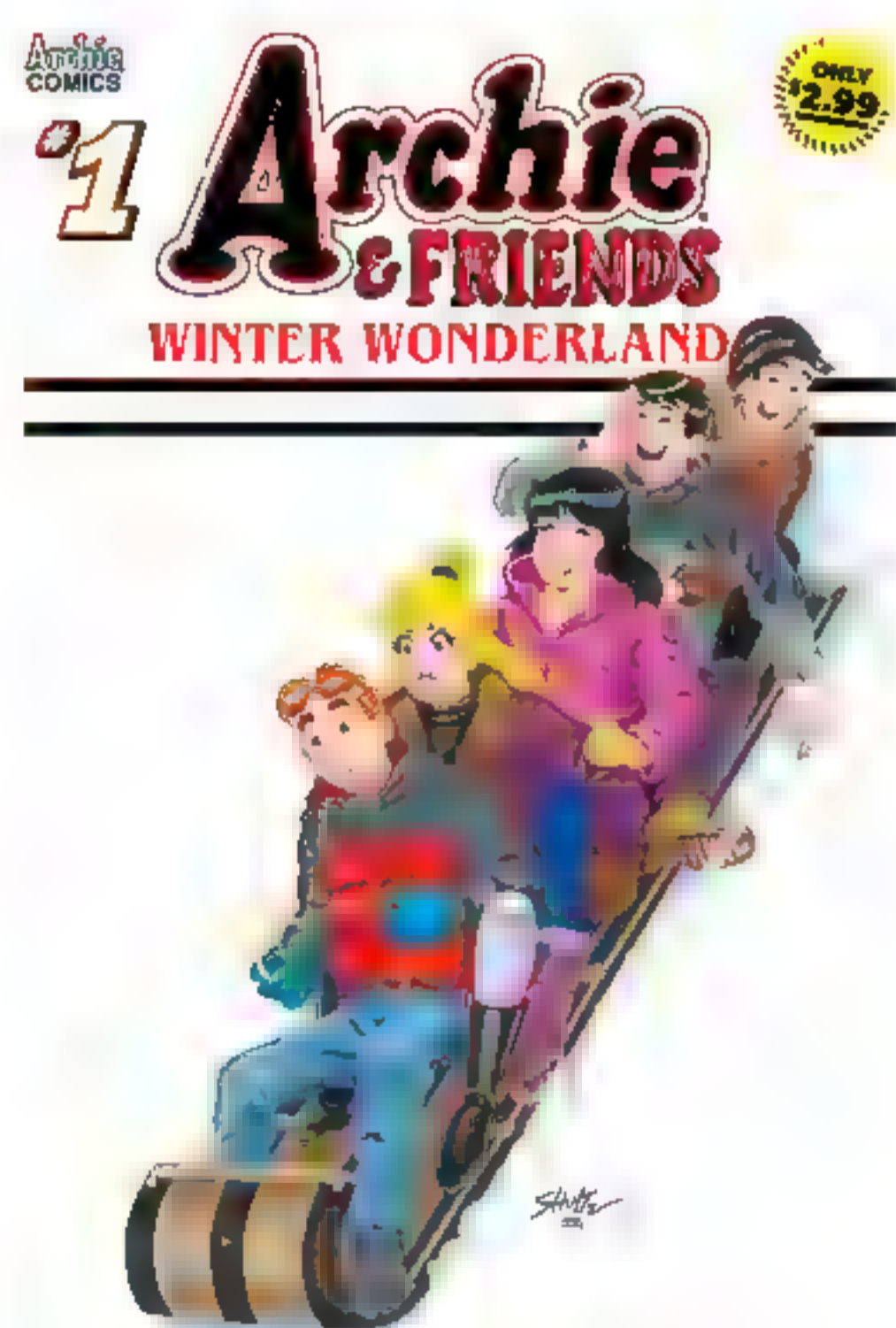
SCRIPT: RON CACACE • ART: VINCENT LOVALLO



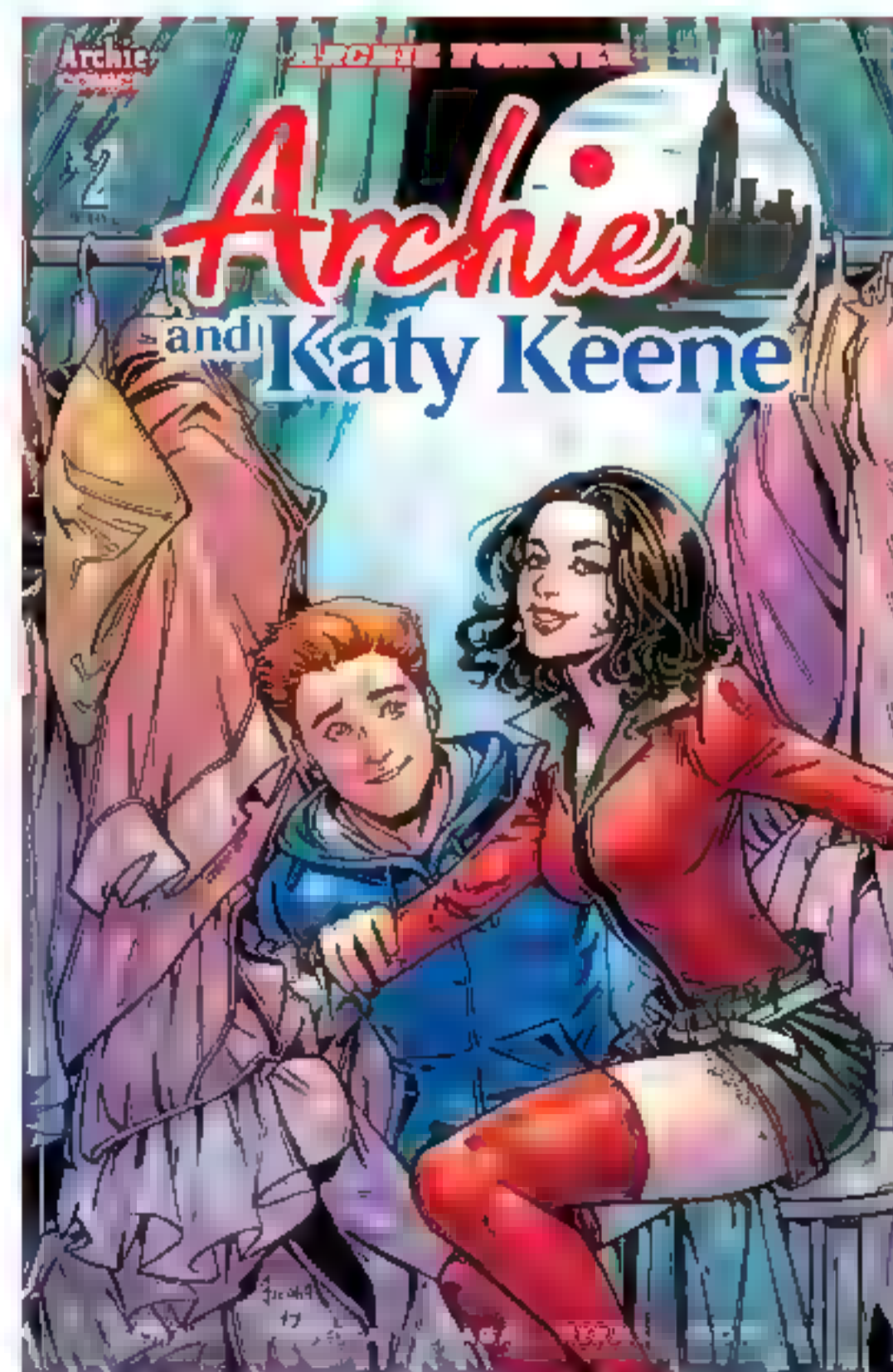
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COSMO™

THE MIGHTY MARTIAN

COVER GALLERY



TRACY YARDLEY



VINCENT LOVALLO



JAIME UGARTE

REACH FOR THE STARS WITH COSMO!



Get ready for out-of-this-world fun with Cosmo and his Martian crew as they find excitement and dangers in the deepest corners of space! Join the team as they stumble upon a panicked human, amusement park rides on the moon and much more in this all-ages adventure series!

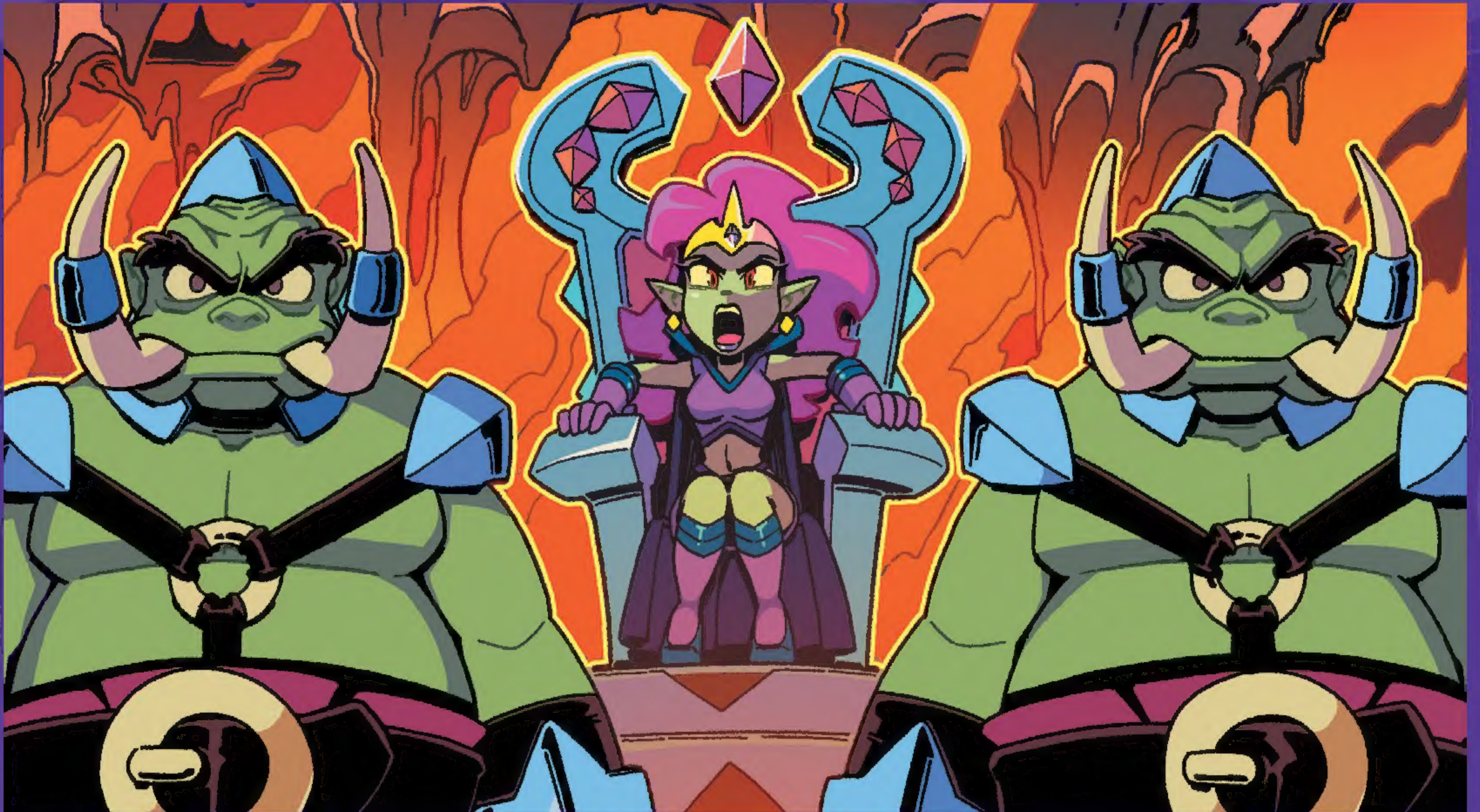
••••• **ON SALE NOW!** •••••

IT'S UP TO SABRINA TO SAVE HER HIGH SCHOOL (AND MAYBE THE WORLD) FROM CRAZY SUPERNATURAL EVENTS. NBD!



ON SALE NOW!

"THE ENTIRE MILKY WAY WILL BE MY WAY!"



Cosmo and Astra investigate a planet of shpooky shadows, little do they know it's actually an ambush led by one of the evil Venusian Battle Princesses, Boudica! Can the pair overcome the devious dark devils, or will they be overshadowed by the barbarous battling Boudica?!

Join the fan favorite creative team from the critically-acclaimed series, *COSMO: SPACE ACES*, writer IAN FLYNN and artist TRACY YARDLEY, in this new space age adventure for readers of all ages!

ALL-AGES



#COSMOTHEMIGHTYMARTIAN

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